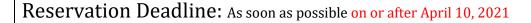
NOVA - What the Rut Rally





Event: NOVA Rally **What the Rut**

Great Smoky Mountains to see the famous Elk Rut

Dates: October 10-15, 2021 (Sunday - Friday)

Hoping for prime runt season (none of that warming-up stuff)

Host/Coordinator: **Tom Brown** Phone/text: 419-203-1681 <u>tomrbrown1951@gmail.com</u>

Ella Brown Phone/text: 419-203-9574 <u>ellambrown1952@gmail.com</u>

Description/Theme: In 2001 Elk were reintroduced to the Great Smoky Mts in the Cataloochee

area. Every year they meet up for the rut in what has become a bucket-list

annual event!

Videos we took in 2020 during the rut

Elk rut - the boys

The Big Boy's In the Meadow

RV Park: Smokemont Campground in Great Smoky Mts. National Park

No hook-ups – nice restrooms (no showers)

Cell phone 5 miles away

5 miles from where the Elk gather at Oconaluftee Visitor Center

7 miles from Cherokee, NC

RV Park Website: https://www.nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit/smokemont-campground.htm

RV Park Phone: 828-497-9270

Reservations: Call to make your reservation beginning April 10 (for Oct 10 arrival.) **Then**

be sure to let Tom or Ella know (phone, email, or text) you plan to attend so we can add you to the contact list to send plans as they develop.

As soon as we make our reservation, we will post our site # on this page

hoping that others can gather in the same area.

Payment: Camping fees are on your own when you make your reservation.

Rally and Other Fees: There may be fees for activities you choose to do.

Reservation Deadline: As soon as possible on or after April 10 – The campground will be filling up

due to leaf-peeping and the rut.

Tentative Itinerary

Things to do in the area:

Daily visits to various Elk Rut viewing points

Blue Ridge Parkway is just minutes away

Newfound Gap and Clingman's Dome under 30 miles away

Cherokee Indian Museum and exhibits

Outdoor play: *Unto These Hills*Lots of hiking trails (waterfalls!)

Bryson City - quaint, historic town with Great Smoky Mts. Railroad

Meals

At least one pot-luck and one breakfast gathering

All other meals will be on your own, but feel free to create your own meal gathering with others at the campground, or as you gather for sightseeing excursions